

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawing contain changes to Figures 1 and 2. These sheets replace the original sheets containing Figures 1 and 2. On Figure 1, the reference numeral -99- has been added, as required by the Examiner. On Figure 2, the reference numeral "25" has been replaced by -25'- to eliminate duplicate use of the same reference numeral. The specification has been correspondingly amended.

REMARKS

The Examiner's action dated November 3, 2005, has been received, and its contents carefully noted. The indication of allowability of the pending claims is noted with appreciation.

In response to the various objections presented in the Action, submitted herewith is a replacement sheet for Figure 1 to which the reference numeral 99 has been added and a replacement sheet for Figure 2 in which the reference numeral "25" has been replaced by the reference numeral -25'-- in order to distinguish between the at least one optical fiber of Figure 1 and the cable of Figure 2. The Specification has been amended to eliminate the informality noted by the Examiner and to conform to the reference numeral change in Figure 2.

The claims have been amended or canceled in order to overcome all of the claim objections.

Thus, claims 7-9, 11-22, 25-32 and 44-46 remain pending and allowance of these claims is requested.

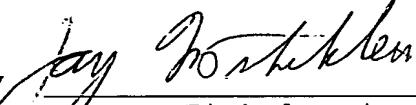
Appln. No. 09/987,685
Amd. dated December 28, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2005

If the above amendment should now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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